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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/724,726	11/28/2000	Gyula Hadlaczky	24601-402E	7776

24961 7590 10/03/2002

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EXAMINER

HELMER, GEORGIA L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1638

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/724,726	HADLACZKY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Georgia L. Helmer	1638	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-74 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 1-74 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered Claims 51-74 have been renumbered as Claims 50-73.

Election/Restriction

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
- I. Claims 1-11, 21-25, and 29-31, drawn to method of producing a SATAC in a plant cell, classified in class 435, subclass 468, for example.
 - II. Claims 12-20, 26-28, 53, 54, 63, and 64, drawn to a SATAC, plant cell comprising a SATAC, and transgenic plant comprising a SATAC, classified in class 800, subclass 298, for example.
 - III. Claims 32-49, drawn to method of producing a de novo centromere in a plant cell, classified in class 435, subclass 468, for example.
 - IV. Claims 50-52, drawn to method of producing a SATAC in a protoplast, classified in class 435, subclass 421, for example.

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- V. Claims 55-57, drawn to method of producing a minichromosome in a plant, classified in class 800, subclass 278, for example.
- VI. Claims 58-61, drawn to method of producing a transgenic plant, classified in class 800, subclass 278, for example.
- VII. Claim 62, drawn to method of cloning a centromere, classified in class 435, subclass 6, for example.
- VIII. Claims 65-67, and 72, drawn to method of producing plant comprising a SATAC, classified in class 800, subclass 278, for example.
- IX. Claims 68-71, and 73, drawn to method of producing a gene product, classified in class 435, subclass 468, for example.

3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons: Inventions I, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII and IX are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case, the methods have different starting materials, different method steps, and different end products and therefore are not related.

4. Inventions I, VI, VIII and II are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the

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instant case, the SATAC, plant cell comprising a SATAC and transgenic plant comprising a SATAC of Group II can be made by any of the methods of Groups I, VI, and VIII.

5. Inventions III, V, VII, IX and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case, the SATAC, plant cell comprising a SATAC and transgenic plant comprising a SATAC of Group II cannot be used in any of the method of Groups III, V, VII, and IX.

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, recognized divergent subject matter, and because the search required for one of the groups is not required for another, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

7. Upon election of Group II, Applicant is additionally required to elect a single nucleic acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:18-24). This requirement is not to be construed as a requirement for an election of species, since each of the nucleic acid sequences or amino acid sequences recited in alternative form is not a member of a single structurally and functionally related genus, but rather constitutes an independent and patentably distinct invention. Separate searches and considerations would be required for examination of each of the nucleic acid sequences or amino acid sequences.

8. A telephone call was made to on to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

9. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Georgia L. Helmer whose telephone number is (703) 308-7023. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4242 or (703) 305-3014.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application, or if the examiner cannot be reached as indicated above, should be directed to the legal analyst, Gwendolyn Payne, whose telephone number is (703) 305-2475.



**AMY J. NELSON, PH.D.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600**

Georgia L. Helmer, Ph.D.

October 1, 2002